

# THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

## More flights with more seat capacity for Aruba! AAA delighted with the addition of Southwest Airlines



AAA's Peter Steinmetz and Jo-Anne Arends

ORANJESTAD -- As of July 1st 2014, Aruba will be introduced to a new airline: Southwest Airlines. After acquiring AirTran, Southwest will now begin flying international. Southwest was known to fly only domestic routes within the US.

Their arrival on Aruba will provide us with 4 additional flights and capacity of 638 extra seats from three destinations.

The Aruba Airport Authority (AAA) is very pleased to be able to welcome this airline shortly to our island. They will be flying their new A737-700 planes with 143 seats. This will mean 6 more seats on each flight compared with AirTran. AirTran/Southwest began their operations on Aruba on December 19, 2009. AirTran represents 11% of the US market for Aruba for a total of around 64,000 passengers per year.

In 2011, Southwest Airlines acquired AirTran Airways. From that moment on they began working diligently to merge these two airlines to provide excellent and

continuous service to their clients. They also chose to expand their destinations as they worked tirelessly to refine their business model.

Their intention is to very soon convert the two airlines into one network of flights, with the option that passengers can purchase tickets via one itinerary, reservation system and loyalty program.

Southwest and AirTran together serves no less than 97 destinations within the USA,



Mexico and the Caribbean. If their plans continue, by the end of 2014 the two airlines will be completely integrated into one airline.

Southwest Airlines announced their plans this

week, to launch their first international flights on July 1st, 2014. They will have daily flights from Atlanta to Aruba, the same route that Delta Airlines is flying. They will also have daily flights from Baltimore to Washington to Aruba. There will also be weekly flights from Orlando, Florida to Aruba, which will make them the only operator of this route.

According to Jo-Anne Arends, Head of the Airline Marketing department of the Aruba Airport Authority, "our airport is known for our incentive packages to airlines, we deal with them according to their needs, we are constantly improving our facilities, we have the pre-clearance of flights to the USA, we have a relatively new terminal and are working hard to make this sustainable. This is what makes us different from the others and attracts airlines to our airport."

Peter Steinmetz, CEO of the Aruba Airport Authority on the other hand explained, "For our airport, more flights is always good news, the same is true for more destinations and particularly more air service for the

island. These achievements are obviously due to the vision we have for the AAA. We want to develop more routes, explore new airlines and amplify possibilities for more passengers to get to our island easier, and at better tariffs." Aruba can be proud of our airport which has won many international prizes, especially because of its unique, modern and special approach to attract new airlines to our island as a tourist destination.

## Obama challenges Congress on inequality



WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama vowed to reverse a tide of economic inequality threatening the American dream Tuesday, seeking to outflank Republicans and revive a second term blighted by self-inflicted wounds and partisan warfare.

In his annual State of the Union address, Obama promised to wield his executive powers in a "year of action" to lift up workers, improve education and clean the environment if his foes in Congress balk at more sweeping action.

"America does not stand still -- and neither will I," Obama said, talking past the lawmakers gathered in the House of Representatives directly to millions of television viewers.

"Inequality has deepened. Upward mobility has stalled and too many still aren't working at all."

"Our job is to reverse these trends," Obama said, pounding out his points with a punchy, optimistic delivery, apparently keen to suggest that despite five grueling years he still has energy and purpose for his task.

While focusing squarely on a domestic audience, Obama strayed into foreign policy only briefly during the one hour, 16-minute speech, as his cabinet and military brass looked on.

He vowed to support democracy in Ukraine, warned Al-Qaeda's threat had evolved and yet again urged Congress to let him close the war on terror camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

But mostly Obama mined

a political seam that has proven rich in the past, billing himself as the champion of middle class families fighting to overcome the worst recession since the Great Depression.

He opened on an upbeat note, saying that thanks to "five years of grit" by the American people, the US economy was finally poised for a "breakthrough."

"The United States is better positioned for the 21st century than any other nation on earth," Obama declared, touting the lowest unemployment rate in five years and a rebounding housing market.

Yet he argued the "defining project of our generation is to restore" the promise of equality of opportunity for all Americans.

He promised to use executive action to raise the minimum wage for federal workers on new contracts from \$7.25 to \$10.10 per hour, and to create a new retirement savings "starter" scheme to help millions of Americans.

Senate Majority leader Harry Reid said the upper chamber will vote on the wage increase proposal in the coming weeks "and I hope Republicans will join us in turning this and other common-sense proposals into law."

Obama called on corporate CEOs to pledge not to discriminate against long-term unemployed job seekers, and to introduce new energy-efficient fuel standards for trucks while working with cities and states to promote cleaner power.

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## A fascinating look at Aruba's heritage as seen through youthful eyes: **XPO 1880 now on display at Aruba Historical Museum**



Young agents investigate Aruba's past



Governor Refunjol signs the guest book

ORANJESTAD -- Visitors to Fort Zoutman have an exciting new exposition awaiting at the Aruba Historical Museum within the landmark. On Friday evening, January 24, Aruba's Governor Fredi Refunjol, Minister of Education, Family Policy and Adult Education, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar and Minister of Social Affairs, Youth Policy and Labor, Paul Croes

were special guests for the official unveiling of "XPO 1880."

This newest exploration of Aruban history and culture was particularly devised to involve and spark interest among island youth in investigating their antecedents and appreciating their cultural heritage. The program deployed 20 schoolchildren, who were dubbed "Special Agents," as they obtained family heirlooms, or selected to investigate traditional practices such as herbal recipes, which then branched out to understanding native flora and their medicinal qualities, or explored the history of their school or house.

The participants were Thomas Brown: Special Agent Carbach 026, Byron Lesire: Special Agent Banca Geel 019, Stephanie Gamarra: Special Agent Casibari 010, Juan David Oduber: Special Agent Turibana 017, Aimar Erasmus: Special Agent Andicuri 009, Jasmin Geerman: Special Agent Abeha 004, Nina Yrausquin: Special Agent Abracadabra 003, Ariana Arends: Special Agent Macuarima 013, Jason

Farro: Special Agent Boroto 022, Oswy Croes: Special Agent Cadushi 025, Melany Collar: Special Agent Shoco 006, Jadavan der Linde: Special Agent Arawak 007, Sarai Carrion: Special Agent Kenepa 011, Valentina Mascolo, Special Agent Cascabel 005, Denise Croes, Special

Agent Chuchubi 022

Kevin Richardson, Special Agent Andicuri 001, Caitlin Steenken Special Agent Baranca 016, Kevin Trimon Special Agent Coribori 018, Alyza Braamskamp Special Agent Bomboshi 023 and Andrea Nuboer Special

Agent Chaskero 027.

The young detectives, digging out the clues and information on Aruba's history and culture, were costumed as secret agents for their introduction by Museum Volunteer and Organizers Zahira Zaandam.

Continued on pg 4

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## E-Post donates to the Foundation "Ban Uni Man Pa Cria Nos Muchanan"



ORANJESTAD -- During the last month of 2013, E-Post, the online shopping service of the Aruba Postal Company, Post Aruba N.V., held a social campaign dubbed "You Shop, We Give" to support the Foundation "Ban uni man pa cria nos muchanan", ("let's unite to feed our children") which helps kids, whose families have economic difficulties and cannot provide them with a daily breakfast at school.

For each transaction completed of packages that were handed out to E-Post clients during the "You Shop, We Give" campaign period, 5 dollars were collected for the Foundation.

At the end of the campaign, the amount of transactions was counted and the sum of 3,100.00 Florins was

donated to the Foundation "Ban uni man pa cria nos muchanan". Mr. John Fun, President of the foundation, was very grateful and said: "with this amount of money the foundation will be able to help 10 kids during an entire year."

For Post Aruba it is always a great pleasure to be able to support the community, which in this case, was to contribute with the Foundation that helps the most vulnerable ones in the society, our children.

Post Aruba is grateful to all those who contributed with this good cause by shipping their online purchases via E-Post, and hope they can continue relying on the Aruban community especially when it comes to these noble causes.

## Minister of Education Hooyboer-Winklaar: "It is our obligation to help students with learning difficulties"

ORANJESTAD -- There are students who during their school years learn follow the lessons perfectly and understand the material taught easily and never face any learning problems. This is a minority. The fact is that the probability that a student will face learning difficulties on any given day is high. It can be something small, which the student themselves can fix with a little more effort or it can be a more serious problem requiring intervention of professionals specialized in these situations.

According to Minister of Education, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, a change is urgently necessary, to create a system where each child in school whom encounter a problem, whether great or small, can receive the necessary assistance.

This will require a change of management but also the funds from the government. These funds must be seen as an investment in the future of students.

There are currently certain schools which have for ("MLK" - Moeilijk Lerende Kinderen) (Schools for children with learning difficulties), such as Emma School, Scol Caicquetio and Paso pa Futuro.

What is lacking in this area is the following phase of school: Secondary schools, which create more options for students completing primary schools. The current situation is that these schools are very full and we must explore ways to create more space for those who need special basic education through special schools at the appropriate level for each child



with educational problems.

One of the challenges is that if there are children with social/emotional or behavioral problems, but with intellectual capacity, there is no other school to send them to. This is where the introduction of the "Cluster 4" school is of great importance, according to Minister Hooyboer-Winklaar.

Cluster 4 is a special school for children with social/emotional problems and with behavioral problems, which makes it difficult for them to follow their studies in a regular school. This is for

students who are as intelligent as students in any other regular school. The "Cluster 4" school will open in the school year 2014/2015 and will begin with four class rooms with a total of 48 students.

The Multi Disciplinary Center (MDC) in Dakota already offers various services related to learning difficulties. The government intends to invest in MDC so they can offer a better and more structured organization so many more students who need this type of guidance can be helped.

Along with this, the government will explore the possibility of creating a fund for students who cannot afford to pay for after school lesson guidance (bijles).

"Education is a fundamental right and I want to not only guarantee access to education, but also remove the obstacles so that each child can reach their maximum potential," the Minister emphasized.



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## A fascinating look at Aruba's heritage...

Cont. from pg 2



a full-fledged landmark cunucu house in which Stephanie Gamarra spends a great deal of time with her grandmother, to the golf clubs Thomas Brown's great-grandfather used when the first golf club opened in San Nicolas. One can learn the traditional recipe Caitlin Steenken's grandparents brought from Germany for rolled crepes made on a special, decorative waffle iron, passed down through the generations, or for herbal soup, "Sopi di Breba," from Kevin Trimon.

The objects and their stories, as well as the family histories of the children involved, are recounted in Papiamentu and English, along with the investigative process in obtaining the information. The revelations are often startling and consistently fascinating. Melany Collar, while investigating the 150 year old chess table that is still used by her uncle, learned that her great-grandfather was a chess master who faced off against the likes of Bobby Fischer during international competitions.

The children enthusiastically shared their information with each other, uniformly agreeing the project was full of surprises for them and has instilled a desire to learn more. They found not only their personal family histories very involving, but those of their friends, as well.

XPO 1880 is scheduled to be on display for one year, but with a fluid format entailing new investigations, which will further involve Aruba's youth. The plan includes taking the program to island schools, possibly integrating it into the curriculums.

The Aruba Historical Museum in Oranjestad is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00

AM until noon and from 1:30 to 4:00 PM. Entrance fee is \$5. Fort Zoutman is also the venue for the weekly Bon Bini Festival on Tuesday evenings, when the museum exhibits are also available.

By Rosalie Klein



They led Governor Refunjol and the ministers into the museum, and invited the dignitaries to break through the paper barrier to reveal the new and delightful display.

The subjects of their investigations are diverse, from

## At The Casino at the Radisson Jerry Rottmann wins the \$46,926.55 Bingo Progressive Jackpot!



**PALM BEACH** — Jerry Rottmann had even more reason to celebrate Betico Day this past weekend, as the lucky visitor landed the Bingo Progressive Jackpot, netting him an astounding amount of \$46,926.55 US.

After only 47 calls, the announcer called out N-33, which was the last number that Jerry needed to win the Progressive Jackpot.

Jerry was cheered on by his fellow bingo players, who had all decided to celebrate Aruba's national holiday, by playing the special Betico Day Bingo at The Casino at the Radisson.

As part of the Betico Day Bingo, The Casino offered special prize baskets to the winners, while local band Grupo Tipico Cadushi Largo provided live traditional music to get players even more pumped up.

Photos show the very happy winners of the Betico Day bingo, including Progressive Jackpot winner Jerry Rottman with his check for \$46,926.55 US.

The fun continues this week, as The Casino will be showing the Super Bowl game on Sunday, on all its TV screens, and will be awarding \$100 in free play to the BIGGEST fan, showing his support and devotion to his favorite athletes, by



demonstrating team spirit, and wearing the team's colors! The Casino Sports Book will be accepting bets all day.

The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa is inviting sport fans to come early for lunch, dinner or Happy Hour, while patronizing all three resort outlets showing the game including Castaway Beach Bar, Gilligan's Beach Bar & Grill and Mira Solo Martini Bar with super deals and an

ongoing party on the pool deck.

Between quarters, the casino is inviting sport fans to visit anytime to take a shot at the Caribbean Stud Poker progressive jackpot at US\$24,863.60, the Bad Beat progressive jackpot at US\$24,862.55 and the BINGO progressive jackpot, which has now been reset to US\$20,000.

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# CEDE Aruba announces new website and wide-ranging six year plan



**CEDE Director Daniel Tecklenborg**

ORANJESTAD -- Centro Pa Desaroyo Aruba, -Center for Development Aruba, is a development and co-financing organization that supports the development and financing of programs and projects in the field of welfare. These programs and projects are brought up and realized by non-government organizations (NGO's). It administers financing for a number of foundations, often connecting various benevolent organizations such as the Oranjefonds, with social projects that are seeking financing.

Director of CEDE Aruba, Daniel Tecklenborg, announced on Tuesday, January 28, CEDE Aruba is now embarking on a far reaching, multi-pronged program of social assistance and reform, which is related in detail on their new website, <http://cedearuba.aw/>. The site is available in Dutch, Papiamentu and English.

CEDE Aruba was founded in 1980, growing out of the original CEBEMO Antiyas, which was established in 1977, supporting foundations throughout the six islands of the Netherlands Antilles. From 2004 until 2010, CEDE Aruba operated with support from both the Dutch and Aruban government, it now relies solely on the island for its operational financing.

As an organization, it combines and uses those energies and resources that are deemed necessary for the social and educational development of the Aruban community and the strengthening of the Private Initiative in the fight against socioeconomic and social problems. Efforts are made to continue promoting the resilience and self-confidence

of the Aruban citizen in general and of the weakest members of society in particular.

CEDE Aruba assistance particularly addresses three areas of concern, Social Welfare, Public Education and Public Recreation. Within these arenas, they will arrange financing for projects that target

- Children and Youth
- Senior Citizens and Disabled
- Vulnerable Groups
- Neighborhood and Community Development
- Strengthening Individuals and Families.

CEDE also actively helps to organize projects, such as Aruba DOET, inaugurated last year. This was a combined, simultaneous volunteer effort throughout the Dutch Kingdom, where thousands of volunteers tackled hundreds of small projects that could be completed within a two day period. On Aruba, various organizations, such as care facilities for the elderly and disabled, received greatly needed maintenance such as painting and landscaping, among dozens of other social tasks that were performed. This will be done annually, with the added goal of instilling the importance and satisfaction of volunteer work among the populace.

Mr. Tecklenborg explained they are particularly interested in programs for the counseling, education and job training of disenfranchised groups, such as the mentally and physically challenged and a frequently forgotten group, ex-convicts, to integrate them into mainstream society. Other groups which similarly concern them are teenage parents and the rehabilitation of addicts.

Another concern is youth:

CEDE will support the founding of programs and facilities to occupy their after-school hours with activities that build leadership and stimulate a healthy lifestyle. On the other side of the spectrum, programs for the elderly, which keep them active, productive, socially involved, and mentally acute, are a priority.

An important aspect of social programs they wish to see on their agenda is the reinforcement of familial relationships, which CEDE considers "the cornerstone of a healthy society." CEDE Aruba will support initiatives "aimed at strengthening the economic position of families, creating a coherent assistance to parents and educators, and strengthening/easing family care. Adult education and self-realization

play a major role in this."

CEDE Aruba considers it extremely important that the rather broad NGO sector in Aruba is strengthened constantly. This is why CEDE Aruba will focus more on the structural support of NGOs. Consideration could be given to frequent knowledge days focused on management aspects, such as policy development, writing project files, setting up an effective accounting system, effective marketing, and using social media, etc. In addition to knowledge days, CEDE Aruba can also organize courses and training in smaller groups and some more intensive consultation processes are also possible. For this purpose, external experts are hired each time.

Communities and groups

that recognize a problem and wish to enact definitive action, but require funding, should visit the CEDE website, formulate a plan and a budget, and seek their assistance in realizing a solution. Grants can be for a single effort, though CEDE Aruba would hope to coordinate with existing NGO's to establish ongoing, sustainable projects that address various social concerns.

Visit their website for a full outline, detailing the sort of projects CEDE Aruba wishes to see established, and to apply for assistance or contact their offices on Caya Appledam 2 in Dakota by calling 5827666. Proposals can be submitted to e-mail: [cedearuba@setarnet.aw](mailto:cedearuba@setarnet.aw)

By Rosalie Klein

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## Obama challenges Congress...

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But Obama's vows of action is likely to reach far fewer Americans than could be helped through legislation.

While he has the power to raise the minimum wage for federal workers, a reluctant Congress would be required to extend the measure across the entire economy.

He called on lawmakers to "say Yes, give America a raise" but they appear unlikely to heed his call.

Such is the stranglehold Republicans have clamped on Congress, much of Obama's second term agenda is stillborn.

### Few easy victories

Obama's subtext was reviving a presidency that seems to be racing towards early lame duck status after a disastrous 2013.

He also needs to shield allied lawmakers from being pulled down by his relative unpopularity -- he has a 43-percent approval rating -- and Democrats are in peril of losing the Senate in mid-term elections.

The president's reputation was sullied by the disastrous rollout of his signature health care law, a government shut-down drama and perceived missteps abroad last year.

He admitted the Obamacare website needed fixing, but fiercely defended the principle of expanding coverage to almost all Americans, which Republicans have voted over 40 times to repeal.

The grand designs of the once-inspirational president's first year in office are but a memory.

But there are signs that Obama's rhetoric on economic disparity is paying off as Republicans also tackled the issue in their response to Obama's address.

### Republicans skeptical

In the official Republican response, congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers promised Americans an agenda that "empowers you, not the government."

"It helps working families

rise above the limits of poverty and protects our most vulnerable."

The speaker of the Republican-lead House of Representatives, John Boehner, said Obama's address showed the president is running on empty.

"After five years, President Obama is clearly out of ideas. With few bipartisan proposals, Americans heard a president more interested in advancing ideology than in solving the problems regular folks are talking about," Boehner said in a statement.

With power ebbing at home, second-term presidents often look for opportunity abroad.

But with America facing challenges from Syria to the South China Sea, there are few easy victories on offer for Obama.

He defended an interim nuclear deal with Iran, which has many skeptics in Congress, as the best way to resolve a top security challenge "without the risks of war."

Obama also reiterated his vow to veto a new sanctions bill that he fears could cause Iran to walk away from the negotiating table.

While Al-Qaeda's core leadership was "on a path to defeat," the extremist threat was evolving through Yemen, Somalia, Iraq and Mali, Obama said.

In the emotional high point of the speech, Obama praised a US soldier who was blown up in Afghanistan but is fighting back from massive brain injuries.

"Like the America he serves, Sergeant First Class Cory Remsburg never gives up and he does not quit," he said, drawing a prolonged ovation for Remsburg, who was seated beside First Lady Michelle Obama.

The president argued that US diplomacy backed by force had resulted in the handover of Syria's chemical weapons, and was supporting difficult talks on an Israeli-Palestinian peace.

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## Freak snowstorm, cold snap paralyzes US South

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The usually balmy US South was paralyzed Wednesday by a freak snowstorm that forced thousands of children to shelter in schools overnight and left thousands of motorists stranded on icy roads.

Schools were closed Wednesday in towns and cities across the region, as authorities struggled to shake off Tuesday's unusual snowfall and freezing temperatures.

Emergency declarations were issued in several southern states, as a result of the wintry conditions felt as far south as Texas and affecting Alabama, Florida, South Carolina and other states famous as havens from the northern winter.

Temperatures in Atlanta fell to 14 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 10 Celsius), the coldest in memory for many resi-

dents. New Orleans shivered at 30 Fahrenheit.

Traffic was still snarled in many places, more than 24 hours after the backups began.

Thousands of desperate motorists ditched their cars to seek shelter at roadside shops and convenience stores, where they slept on floors overnight.

Georgia said at least one person had been killed in the cold snap and that more than 1,200 traffic accidents were reported.

Governor Nathan Deal of Georgia expressed his gratitude to school staff who stayed with students overnight.

"I want to say, at this point, a thank you to the teachers, to the staff, to the resource officers at those schools," he told reporters.

"Many of them were there all night and made sure that if the children were staying in their school, they were safe."

Perhaps even less fortunate were children whose drivers succeeded in getting them onto buses, only to become stuck on roads for hours during the ride home from school.

Compounding the problem was that many roads had not been pre-treated with sand and salt to make them more navigable.

State police and national guard officials said they were working to clear travel lanes, and reunite stranded school children with their families.

News reports said police were still trying to rescue motorists stranded on the sides of roads, many of whom had been forced to tough out the night in their vehicles.



## McCann police visit Portugal on trio's trail: lawyer

LISBON (AFP) - British detectives investigating the disappearance of toddler Madeleine McCann have made a fresh visit to Portugal as they close in on three people they want to question, the family's lawyer said Wednesday.

Rogério Alves, the McCanns' lawyer in Portugal, said: "What I know is, Scotland Yard has suspicions concerning three people and wants to interview these people."

"These people would be spoken to within the framework of the international judicial cooperation, and what they have to say would be taken into account," he told reporters in Lisbon.

The Daily Mirror newspaper in Britain said four Scotland Yard policemen had gone to Faro and were "set to swoop on three suspects" thought to be part of a burglary gang.

Madeleine vanished from a holiday apartment in the beach resort of Praia da Luz, days before her fourth birthday in 2007. Her parents were dining with friends at a restaurant close by.

Portuguese authorities closed their investigation into McCann's disappearance in 2008, but Scotland Yard spent two years reviewing the evidence at the British government's request and opened their own probe in July last year.

Gerry and Kate McCann have never dropped their campaign to find Madeleine. They believe she was kidnapped and is still alive.



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## Teen ringleader guilty in prostitution ring

OTTAWA (AFP) - A teenaged girl was found guilty of forcing her peers, including one as young as 13, into prostitution through intimidation and blackmail in Canada's capital city.

She now faces up to 14 years in prison, as the Crown seeks an adult sentence for 30 charges including child luring, child pornography, assault and forcible confinement.

Two of her accomplices have already pleaded guilty in the case, after police accused them of plying girls with drugs and alcohol, then beating them into submission before sending them out to have sex with johns.

The youngest of the group was sentenced last week to three years in prison, the maximum for youths.

Judge Diane Lahaie rejected a sentencing recommendation of one year for the other, saying it was too lenient.

The trio were 15-16 years old when they were arrested in June 2012.

The court heard during the trial that most of the victims were befriended on Facebook, with phrases such as: "You sound like a chill girl. How old are you? We should chill together."

They were invited to "hang out" with the accused, the prosecutor said, encouraged or forced to take drugs, and told they would become escorts. If they refused, they were threatened with violence and blackmail.

One victim was forced kicking and screaming into a john's car at a gas station. She escaped but was quickly caught and dragged back. Another's clothes were ripped off in the basement of a house and she was photographed in the nude.

The Crown said one of the accused would send photographs of a new recruit to prospective johns from her cellphone, and if they agreed, she would send the girl by taxi to the man's home to sell sex.

## Pope Francis makes the cover of Rolling Stone

WASHINGTON (AFP)

- Pope Francis is taking his place alongside the icons of American popular culture by appearing on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine, which hits newsstands Friday.

It's the first time the staunchly liberal rock-music bible has featured a Roman Catholic pontiff on its cover, which is typically graced by pop stars and movie idols.

"Pope Francis: the times they are a-changin'," reads the cover headline that borrows the title of Bob Dylan's classic early 1960s anthem.

The Argentine-born pope, who took office in March last year, has previously been Time magazine's Person of the Year. He also made the cover of The Advocate, the respected US gay rights magazine.

In an accompanying 3,000-word profile, seen on its website Wednesday, Rolling Stone hailed the pontiff's relaxed style and his less aggressive stance on such hot-button issues as homosexuality compared to his two predecessors.

In a statement, Rolling



Stone's editors said they had been struck by his seeming effort to play down "culture war issues" and his willingness to talk "about real world economic issues in starkly moral terms."

"His tone is a breath of fresh air, but his message is a wake-up call," they said.

Roman Catholics make up the biggest Christian denomination in the United States, but polls indicate lay Catholics don't all share the national church leadership's hardline stance on abortion, contraception and gay marriage.



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## Dutch find horse in 690 tonnes of abattoir meat

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Dutch health watchdog said Wednesday it had halted distribution of 690 tonnes of meat from an abattoir after a probe found traces of horse in products marked as beef.

The investigation also found that the abattoir and wholesaler situated in the central town of Dodewaard "bought more horses than its book indicated were slaughtered."

"All meat, some 690 tonnes stored in the abattoir's fridges, has been blocked (from sale) until they can show its origin," the NVWA said.

It gave the business, named by Dutch media as Van Hattem Vlees, until next Monday to comply.

Last year, the NVWA arrested a Dutch butcher believed to be the kingpin in a Europe-wide scandal in which horse meat was passed off as beef.

When the horsemeat scandal erupted a year ago, governments scrambled to find out

how the mislabelling of meat happened in the sprawling chain of production, spanning abattoirs and meat suppliers across Europe.

The scandal prompted the European Commission to order tests of food across the European Union which showed that almost one in 20 meals marketed as beef was likely to be tainted with horse.

Though the scare first erupted in Ireland and Britain, there was no trace of horse-tainted products in either country, with the highest number found in France, Greece, Latvia and Denmark in that order.

The scandal led to meatballs in Ikea stores, sausages in Russia and frozen burgers in Britain's Tesco chain being pulled from shelves by the millions.

Brussels has suggested tighter controls along the food chain as well as stiffer sanctions against food fraud.

## Payout for British girl brain damaged by hospital glue injection

LONDON (AFP) - A famous London's children hospital on agreed to pay out £2.8 million (\$4.6 million, 3.4 million euros) to a girl who was left brain damaged when glue was accidentally injected into her brain.

Maisha Najeib was 10-years-old when she underwent an operation at Great Ormond Street Hospital in 2010, which involved injecting glue to block bleeding blood vessels.

She was also meant to have dye injected into an artery in her brain as part of the procedure, but the syringes got mixed up, leaving her with permanent brain damage.

The victim will also receive £383,000 a year until she turns 19, which will increase to £423,000 per year for as long as she lives.

The court heard how there were no labels on the syringes to identify which was glue and which was dye.

"We can't wind the clock back," said the trust's lawyer Nick Block. "We hope there are now systems and procedures in place to ensure such a tragic mistake cannot be made again."

Maisha's father Sadir, said his daughter's life was "ruined". "I hope that by bringing this case, lessons will have been learned to avoid this happening to other families," he added.

Maisha was healthy when she entered hospital, despite suffering from a rare condition in which arteries and veins can become tangled.

She is now wheelchair bound and has lost most of her bodily and cognitive abilities, the court heard.

## Sex, pregnancy poorly understood by women: US study



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Women are often in the dark when it comes to basic facts about sex, fertility, pregnancy and their own reproductive health, according to a US study.

The research was conducted by Yale University via an online survey of 1,000 women aged 18-40 from across the United States.

Just one in 10 women knew that sex was required before ovulation, not after, in order to optimize the chances of pregnancy, said the findings in the journal Fertility and Sterility.

More than one third thought that certain sex positions, like raising one's hips, could increase the chance of pregnancy.

About 40 percent thought their ovaries were continually producing new eggs.

"This misperception is of

particular concern, especially so in a society where women are increasingly delaying pregnancy," said co-author Lubna Pal, associate professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences at Yale.

About half of women had never discussed their reproductive health with a doctor, said the survey.

Some 30 percent said they either never went for a women's health check-up or did so less than once a year.

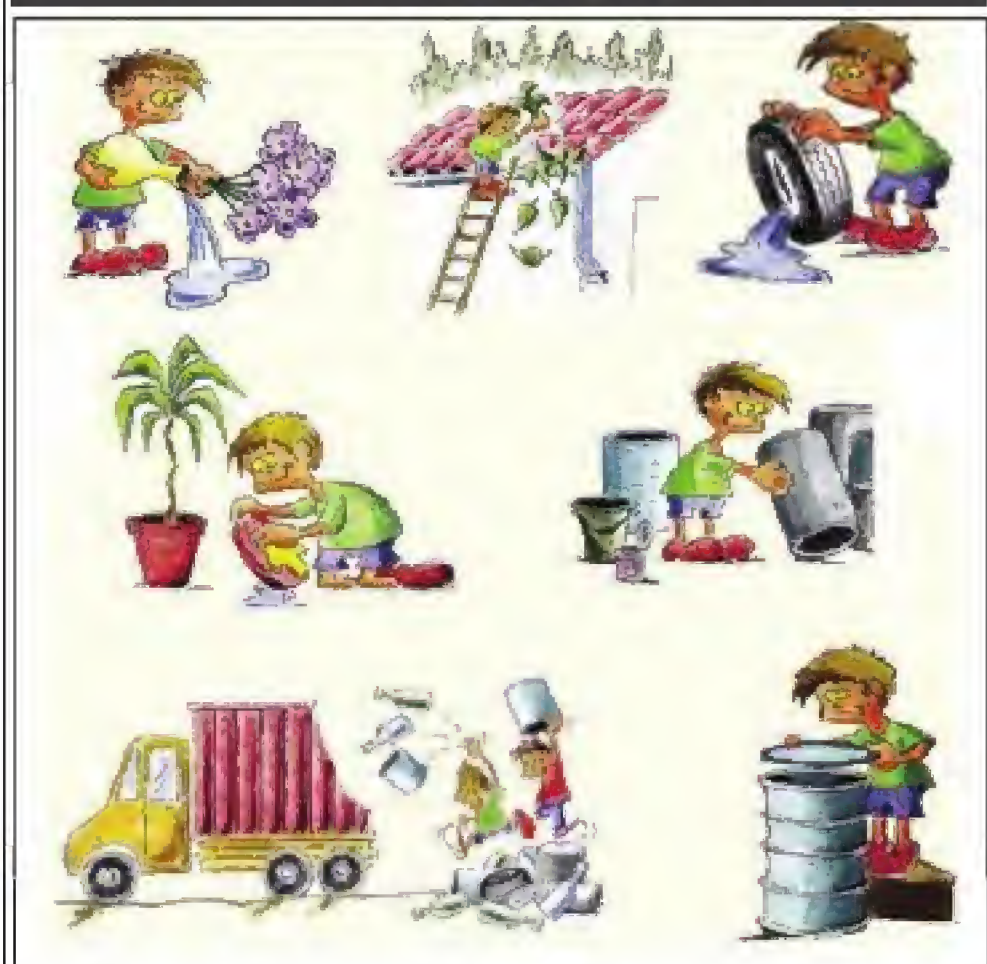
When it came to health during pregnancy, half were unaware that multivitamins with folic acid are recommended to prevent birth defects.

One fifth did not know that advancing age could cause higher rates of miscarriage, infertility and fetal abnormalities.

"This study, on one hand, brings to the forefront gaps in women's knowledge about their reproductive health, and on the other, highlights women's concerns that are often not discussed with health providers," said senior author Jessica Iluzzi, also an associate professor at Yale.

"It is important that these conversations happen in this ever-changing family landscape."

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## After 3 decades, Buccaneer is still an island favorite



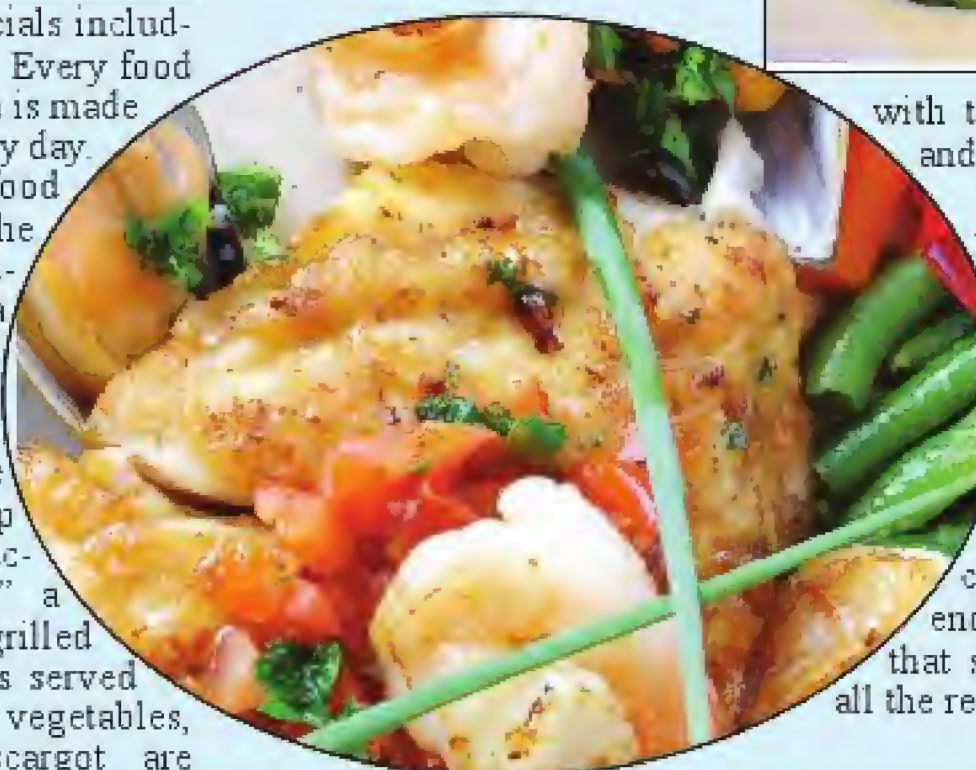
-- The Buccaneer Restaurant is a legendary favorite from day one that the doors opened 35 years ago. The nautical, laid back restaurant located in-between the high and low rise hotels in Aruba. The restaurant is owned and run by Josef Munzenhofer, a local Aruban who kept many of the father's traditional recipes and added new entrees. The menu is a wide and varied menu that is focused mainly on fresh caught local seafood dishes and for the not seafood lover's, poultry, lamb, angus cut beef, pasta and duck. On a daily basis the

chef creates specials including a daily soup. Every food item on the menu is made from scratch every day. Some popular food choices are the "Barracuda Meunière" with a light caper lemon sauce, "Shrimp Trio" your choice of three types of shrimp entrees, "Seduction of the sea" a medley of grilled seafood favorites served with pasta and vegetables, Ceviche & Escargot are

among the best sellers for appetizers and if you love rack of lamb with mint sauce than feast on this.

The restaurant has a welcoming, nautical feel with an extensive 18,000 gallon aquarium wall in the main dining room and smaller aquariums at the cozy booth, coastal maps, diving helmet, old fashion compass, shells and the eye stopper bar produced by the owner himself

### Fish



Surf & Turf

with tables to match, and so much more.

Planning a party or special event than Buccaneer is the right choice for you. Checkout the website with a video included of the legendary restaurant that stands out from all the rest.

The Buccaneer kitchen is open Monday through Saturday 5:30-10:00 pm & Early Bird from 5:30-7:00 pm, closed on Sundays. Buccaneer is known for their reasonable prices and their along with a top-notch team who have kept satisfied guests coming back.

The restaurant location is 11C Gasparito. Making a reservation is easy just call 586-6172 . email - [buccaneeraruba@yahoo.com](mailto:buccaneeraruba@yahoo.com).



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### Facebook shares leap with profit jump

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Facebook said Wednesday that profit soared in 2013 on the back of sizzling mobile ad revenue as the social network's membership continued to swell. The world's biggest social network said profit in the fourth quarter jumped eight-fold from a year earlier to \$523 million, bringing the full-year profit to \$1.5 billion. Revenues in the past quarter rose to \$2.58 billion and \$7.87 billion for the year. Facebook shares rallied more than nine percent in after-hours trading to \$58.80 after release of the earnings figures. Menlo Park, California-based Facebook will mark its 10th birthday on February 4. Facebook said the number of monthly active users rose 16 percent from a year ago to 1.23 billion, with 945 million using mobile devices. Facebook is the preferred network, used by 71 percent of online adults, or 57 percent of all American adults, according to Pew researchers.

## Transplant tissue: Stem cells in 'revolutionary' boost

PARIS (AFP) - Scientists Wednesday reported a simple way to turn animal cells back to a youthful, neutral state, a feat hailed as a "game-changer" in the quest to grow transplant tissue in the lab.

The research, reported in the journal Nature, could be the third great advance in stem cells -- a futuristic field that aims to reverse Alzheimer's, cancer and other crippling or lethal diseases.

The latest breakthrough comes from Japan, as did its predecessor which earned its inventor a Nobel Prize.

The new approach -- provided it overcomes safety hurdles -- could smash cost and technical barriers in stem-cell research, said independent commentators.

"If it works in man, this could be the game-changer that ultimately makes a wide range of cell therapies available using the patient's own cells as starting material," said Chris Mason, a professor of regenerative medicine at University College London.

"The age of personalised medicine will have arrived."

Stem cells are primitive cells that, as they grow, differentiate into the various specialised cells that make up the different organs -- the brain, the heart, kidney and so on.

The goal is to create stem cells in the lab and nudge them to grow into these differentiated cells, thus replenishing organs damaged by disease or accident.

One of the obstacles, though, is ensuring that these transplanted cells are not attacked as alien by the body's immune system.

To achieve that, the stem cells would have to carry the patient's own genetic code, to identify them as friendly.

In 1998 came the first gain: the use of cloning technology -- pioneered with Dolly the sheep -- to harvest stem cells from early-stage embryos grown from the donor's own DNA.

Hugely versatile, these "pluripotent" stem cells are controversial as the method entails destroying the embryo, something opposed by religious conservatives and others. In 2006, a team led by Shinya Yamanaka of Kyoto University, who was a co-recipient of the 2012 Nobel Prize for Medicine, created so-called induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS).

The technique had to overcome an early hurdle of causing tumours in cells and still faces problems with efficiency -- less than one percent of adult cells typically are reprogrammed successfully.



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Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.62
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.99
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	199.16
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	244.80
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	28.08
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	33.04
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	29.27
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	175.20

(per 10,000)

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## Dutch Health insurance could cost €200 more next year, ministers told

THE HAGUE - Unions and employers say healthcare premiums could rise by €200 next year because of changes in long-term care funding.

They've written to health minister Edith Schippers warning her of the implications of government policy which includes shifting long-term care from a separate fund to the general health insurance system.

The health ministry said in a statement it is currently investigating the likely impact of the change on next year's premi-

ums. 'Premiums are dependent on many factors,' a spokesman told Nos television.

The change still has to be passed by both houses of parliament and there are doubts if the cabinet will win majority support in the upper house of parliament.

## Black economy equals quarter of Spanish output

MADRID (AFP) - Untaxed transactions in Spain have surged to equal nearly a quarter of the country's output as unemployed workers scrape a living in the black economy, experts said on Wednesday.

The cash economy has flourished since 2008, when the collapse of a building boom hurled Spain into a double recession, a report by Treasury experts and academics said.

Cash transactions carried out behind the taxman's back in 2012 hit nearly 253 billion euros (\$346 billion), or 24.6 percent of gross domestic product, according to the report released by GESTHA, a tax inspectors' union.

That year the conservative government announced it aimed to save 150 billion euros over three years through spending cuts and other austerity measures that sparked mass street protests.

# Fed cuts another \$10 bn from stimulus program

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Federal Reserve stayed the course on tapering its stimulus for the US economy Wednesday, reducing asset purchases by \$10 billion for the second month in a row.

Amid emerging-market turmoil blamed in part on its stimulus reduction, the Fed, as expected, cut the monthly bond-buying program to \$65 billion beginning February and left its benchmark interest rate near zero, citing "growing underlying strength in the broader economy."

Wrapping up the final meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee under departing Chairman Ben Bernanke, policy makers noted that despite some mixed economic indicators since their December meeting, overall the US economy was doing better.

Information indicates "that growth in economic activity picked up in recent quarters," the FOMC said in a statement.

That was a bit more upbeat than its December assessment of the economy "expanding at

a moderate pace."

"The Committee sees the risks to the outlook for the economy and the labor market as having become more nearly balanced," it said.

Appearing to acknowledge the shockingly weak December jobs report, which many economists blamed on severe winter weather, the FOMC said that "labor market indicators were mixed but on balance showed further improvement."

Household spending and business fixed investment has sped up in recent months, while the housing recovery was slowing.

Although fiscal policy remained a hindrance to growth, the impact of government budget cuts and tax increases was "diminishing," the Fed officials said.

Meanwhile expectations for inflation, running below the Fed's 2.0 percent target, "have remained stable."

The Fed, whose dual mandate is maximum employment and price stability, said that conditions were appropriate for

a further tapering of stimulus.

"Taking into account the extent of federal fiscal retrenchment since the inception of its current asset purchase program, the Committee continues to see the improvement in economic activity and labor market conditions over that period as consistent with growing underlying strength in the broader economy," it said.

The FOMC predicted that, with appropriate policy, "economic activity will expand at a moderate pace and the unemployment rate will gradually decline toward levels the Committee judges consistent with its dual mandate."

It was the last FOMC meeting chaired by Bernanke, who steps down Friday after an eight-year tenure at the helm of the US central bank.

The FOMC decision was approved unanimously for the first time since June 2011. It was endorsed by 10 voting committee members, including Janet Yellen, the current vice chair who succeeds Bernanke as the first woman to head the Fed on Saturday.

## RBS to cell it's Jamaican Banking Operations

TORONTO - Royal Bank of Canada (RY on TSX and NYSE) today announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to sell RBC Royal Bank (Jamaica) Limited and RBTT Securities Jamaica Limited (collectively "RBC Jamaica") to Sagcor Group Jamaica Limited. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approvals and is expected to be finalized in the coming months.

"Consistent with our strategy of being a competitive leader in the markets where we operate, we determined after a

careful and thorough review that the best decision for the long-term future success of RBC Jamaica was to sell it to Sagcor," said Suresh Sookoo, CEO of RBC Caribbean. "Sagcor is a well established financial franchise in Jamaica with the size, scale and complementary capabilities that RBC Jamaica does not currently possess."

"RBC has operated in the Caribbean for over 100 years and remains committed to this region. This transaction will allow us to successfully reposition our Caribbean business for the future and focus on re-

gions where we have significant market share," said Dave McKay, group head, Personal & Commercial Banking, RBC. "We are focused on strengthening our business performance, service and competitiveness in markets where we can be a leading competitor over the long term."

While financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed, the purchase price approximately reflects the book value of RBC Jamaica. RBC expects the transaction to result in an estimated loss of C\$60 million (before and after-tax) as a result of International Financial Reporting Standards, largely related to an estimated write-down for the proportionate share of RBC Jamaica goodwill and other intangibles acquired by RBC in connection with its acquisition of RBTT Financial Group in 2008.

The transaction is not expected to have a material impact on RBC's Basel III Common Equity Tier 1 ratio.

The loss is based on current estimates and is subject to change and will be reflected in the results of the first quarter ending January 31, 2014. RBC will release its first quarter 2014 results and host an earnings conference call on February 26, 2014.

### About RBC

Royal Bank of Canada (RY on TSX and NYSE) is Canada's largest bank and one of the largest banks in the world, based on market capitalization. We are one of North America's leading diversified financial services companies, and provide personal and commercial banking, wealth management services, insurance, investor services and capital markets products and services on a global basis. We employ approximately 79,000 full- and part-time employees who serve more than 15 million personal, business, public sector and institutional clients through offices in Canada, the U.S. and 44 other countries. For more information, please visit [rbc.com](http://rbc.com).



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### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

U	M	P		C	R	A	N	E
D	A	U	B		B	A	B	E
A	D	D	R	E	S	S	B	O
R	E	G	E	N	T		B	U
G	R	E	E	C	E		I	T
							H	R
L	A	M					I	N
A	I	D	E				L	O
B	L	U	E	B	E	R	R	I
B	A	L	S	A			T	O
A	C	T	E	D			L	E



## COMICS

## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

- 1 Scrap of food  
4 Weeps convulsively  
8 Curtsies, for a boy  
10 Attic  
12 Monogram part (abbr.)  
13 Leather-neck  
14 Vehicle for hire  
16 Tell tales  
17 Negative prefix  
18 Chaney of films  
19 Bags  
22 Old (flag)  
24 Civil War side (abbr.)  
25 Actress Zadora  
26 Venomous viper  
27 One no longer popular (hyph.)  
31 —-perfect  
33 Ticklish Muppet  
34 Salivates

## 35 Green

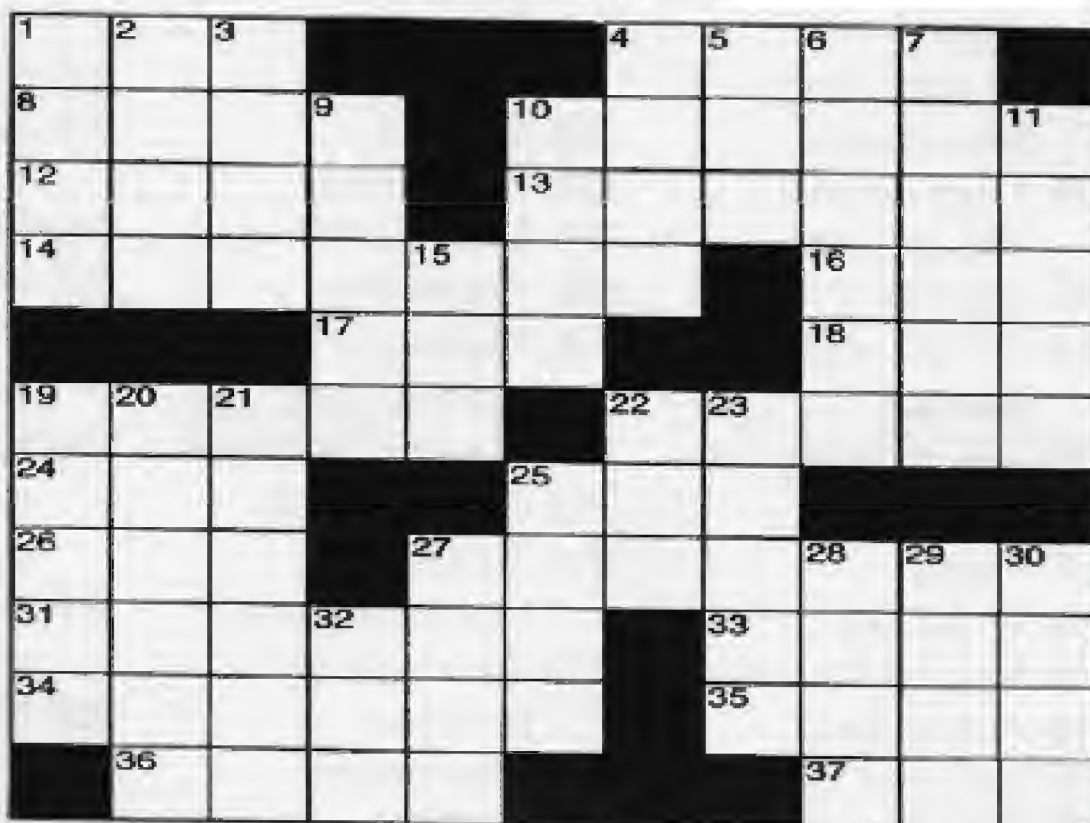
- sherbet  
36 Miner's cart  
37 "Erie Canal" mule

## DOWN

- 1 Sad notice, for short  
2 Gossip columnist Barrett  
3 Chocolate-covered snack bar  
4 Type of car  
5 Bobby of the Bruins

see our website:  
[www.themorningnewsaruba.com](http://www.themorningnewsaruba.com)

- 6 Scrubbing pad  
7 College student  
9 Fuss, informally  
10 FBI agent (hyph.)  
11 Wee  
15 Businesses (abbr.)  
19 Scorch  
20 Declare positively  
21 Taker of prisoners  
22 Soldiers,  
for short  
23 Apparel tag  
25 Norms  
27 Tiller  
28 Whitney and Wallach  
29 Jane Austen novel  
30 Playwright Coward  
32 "Prelude — Kiss" (2 wds.)



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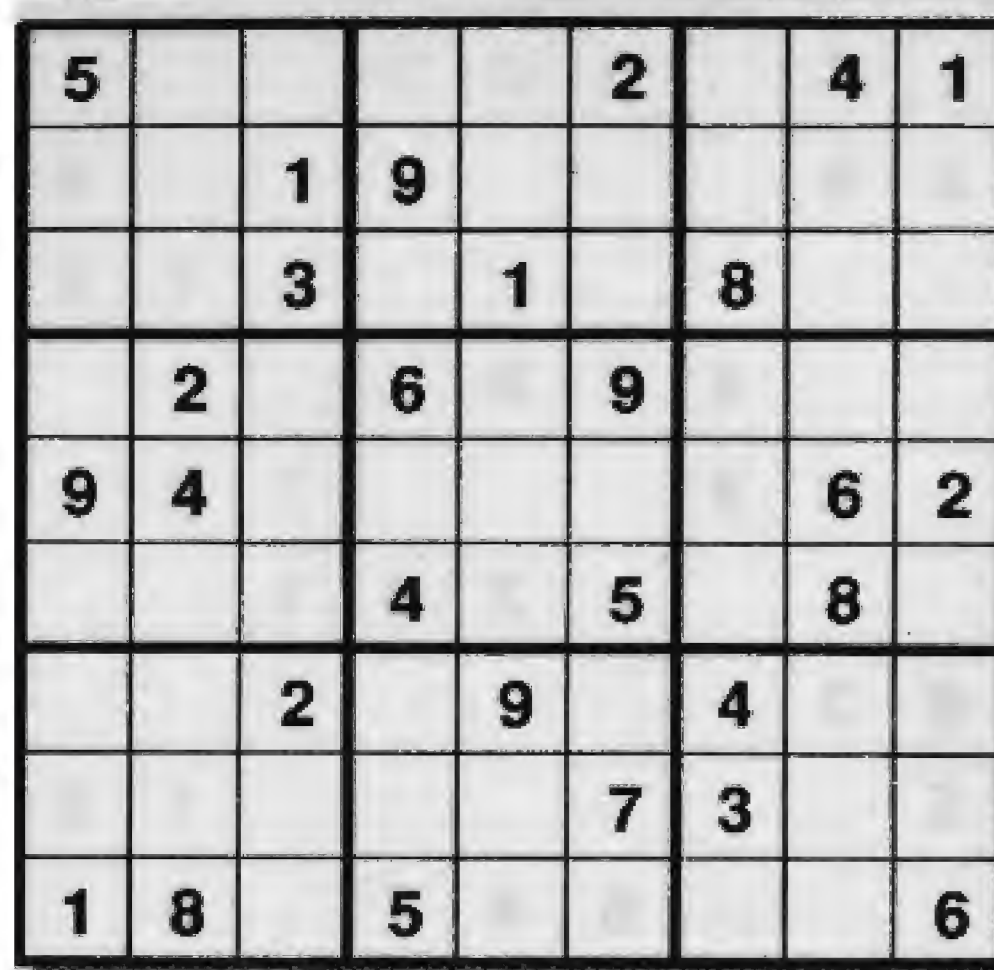
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## Sudoku



## SOLUTION



Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



## Buster's is back in Eagle Beach at Trop Casino



The home of the Beer Pong drinking game

-- Fans of Aruba's favorite sports bar are happy to hear that Buster's Garage has relocated to the restaurant/bar space inside Trop Casino. Now Eagle Beach resort guests have a great place for a bargain-priced breakfast or a bucket of beer while rooting for the team of their choice.

Buster's has that great, homey feel of settling in to enjoy a game with buddies, greatly due to the warmth and enthusiasm of owner Rusty. He takes pride in making patrons feel welcome. "If somebody really needs to watch their home team on the field, we'll be happy to put it on for

them," he confidently assured us. "We have 3 satellite dishes with separate packages to pick up every station imaginable. If there is a game going on out there somewhere, we'll find it."

With giant screens everywhere throughout the joint, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Aside from their all day menu of game-watching favorites, they also feature a hearty breakfast menu. The "Grand Slam Platter" includes eggs any style, pancakes or waffles, bacon, juice, fresh made home fries with coffee or tea for only \$9. Lunch and dinner menus reflect the same moderate pricing with required sports bar standards such as chicken wings, club sandwiches, burgers and a heaping helping of nachos, averaging \$9; pizza and main courses range from \$11 to \$15.



A whopping cheese nachos w/chicken dish

Aside from the games and the gambling, patrons can expect great entertainment three nights weekly with one of Aruba's most popular trios, "Threesome." There are also some wild times getting acquainted with Rusty's Beer Pong, the Drinking Game of Champions. Win or lose,

players always end up with a smile on their face.

This family friendly place, with air hockey and video games for the kids, along with a special menu for young ones, is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM until 1:00 AM for late night snacking and fun.

## Budget Car Rental celebrating 50 years budget-minded service!



Explore Aruba in a Jeep wrangler hard top

--The car rental name synonymous with savings will next month celebrate their golden anniversary of operating on Aruba! One of the first of its kind to establish a car rental agency with highly competitive prices, it still maintains that standard of offering the best service, a diverse fleet of vehicles to meet each renters needs, at the best price possible.

Budget has a fleet of 250 autos on Aruba, ranging from subcompact to authentic Jeep Wrangler® hardtop 4X4 or the stylish Toyota Rav 4, for exploring Aruba's outback in air-conditioned comfort. Their standard Toyota Yaris, the most popular model, is known for quality and dependability. Each year, they refresh 25% of their fleet and retire the older cars. Compared to the U.S., car

rentals are quite affordable on Aruba, with the third party liability insurance included in the rental rates, as required by law.

Budget's head office is in Camacuri, not far from the airport, but they maintain an outlet right at the airport and another conveniently located in the Arawak Gardens in Palm Beach, an easy stroll

from all the Palm Beach resorts. Budget will provide free transportation to their Arawak Gardens outlet from any hotel, and return you to your door when turning in your car.

A Toyota Yaris rents for \$174 for the week, there is an additional airport concession fee to have a car available immediately on arrival, but this is balanced out by the cost of roundtrip fares to most resorts, and on weekly rentals is a decided savings.

Budget has become the world's third largest car rental franchise because of their commitment to quality service and product at the best price possible, and the staff of Budget Car Rental Aruba is equally dedicated to seeing their customers smile



Clean, dependable Toyota Yaris

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pletely furnished with cable TV. The open kitchen is very spacious and equipped with stove top, refrigerator, toaster/oven and coffee maker (microwave optional).

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E-mail: [quality@setarnet.aw](mailto:quality@setarnet.aw), Website: <http://arubaqualityapartments.com>



## Olympics: Three Canadian sisters to compete at Olympics

MONTREAL (AFP) - Their identical radiant smiles give them away: three Canadian sisters who are inseparable, at the top of their sport and all three headed to Sochi to compete in the Olympics.

Freestyle skiers Maxime, Chloe and Justine Dufour Lapointe will become the second sister trio and only the fifth siblings to do so.

According to sports historians, three Leduc sisters from France competed in the 1960 women's slalom, and the Jerman brothers from Argentina competed in 1976 in cross-country skiing.

As well, three Stastny brothers from Czechoslovakia played Olympic hockey in 1980, and four Tames brothers made up the Mexican bobsled team at the 1988 Games.

Maxime, 24, Chloe, 22, and Justine, 19, wear their red and black Team Canada jackets with pride, while their mother also beams in the background, "so happy that each of my three girls is realizing her dream".

"When I was 12 or 13 and on the provincial team, that's when I knew that I wanted to go to the Olympics," says Chloe, who will be competing at her second Games in Sochi. In Vancouver in 2010 she came in fifth in her sport.

For the Dufour Lapointe family, skiing was merely a winter past-time, when ice and snow prevented them from sailing.

"We've been sailing since the age of 16 and we're now 53," says mom, who now acts as her girls' agent.

"We'd always be on a boat in the summer and in winter, for outdoor activities, we turned to skiing and it was around age three that the girls took their first skiing lessons."



"We've always been adventurous"

"Going skiing with our parents, we always went into the backcountry or to ski jumping hills. We've always been adventurous," says Chloe, explaining her passion for winter acrobatics.

Maxime while watching a ski jumping competition at age 10 decided: "I want to do that."

Hesitant at the start, her parents eventually realized that their eldest girl "had talent and liked it", and soon her younger siblings started to imitate her, recalled family matriarch Johane Dufour.

In order to keep up their education, they would cram schooling into four days each week, leaving them free to train on Fridays in order to compete on weekends.

"These girls have never been apart," and whatever challenges the future brings they will meet them together, says mom, recalling how they used to play together during long sailing trips.

That closeness may someday persist into a new career in fashion, with Chloe doing marketing, Justine being responsible for management and Maxime doing the actual sewing and stitching. Our skills and abilities are "com-

plementary", says Chloe, revealing that the three girls would like to launch a clothing line. They have already chosen a possible brand name: "3SDL" for "three sisters Dufour Lapointe."

"Oh so cute," interrupts Justine when she spies Chloe's nails painted with the Olympic rings and Canada's Maple Leaf flag.

Now it is her turn in the chair at a beauty salon attached to the gym in Montreal where the three girls train.

Everything is being done to prepare Justine, Chloe and Maxime -- ranked second, third and fifth in the world in their sport, respectively -- to shine in Sochi, and win gold.

They will be competing against moguls champion Hannah Kearney of the United States.

For now, they are focused on "getting past the finish line and then the final decision will be in the hands of the judges", says Chloe.

On February 8, mom and dad will be waiting for them "at the bottom of the slope" and cheering them on.

The best outcome would be to see all three sisters on the winners' podium -- which would be a first in Olympic history.

## Boxing: Pacquiao, Bradley set for rematch

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Philippine ring legend Manny Pacquiao will get a chance to avenge his controversial split decision defeat by Timothy Bradley in a rematch set for April 12 in Las Vegas. Bob Arum's Top Rank promotions announced the bout, in which Bradley will be defending his World Boxing Organization welterweight belt, on Saturday. Pacquiao and Bradley met for the first time on June 9, 2012 at the MGM Grand -- site for April's fight -- when Bradley's triumph ended Pacquiao's seven-year, 15-bout winning streak. But many thought the decision should have gone to Pacquiao, who will be keen to settle that score. Pacquiao's loss to Bradley was followed by another defeat, against Mexican Juan Manuel Marquez later in 2012. The two straight defeats had many speculating Pacquiao -- who boasts a record of 55-5-2 with 38 knockouts and is the only fighter to win eight world titles in as many different weight divisions -- would soon retire from the ring and focus on his political career. In his most recent fight, in October, Bradley gave a virtuoso performance in split-decision victory over three-division world champion and Mexican icon Marquez.



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## BRIEFS:



BERLIN (AFP) - Two late goals preserved champions Bayern Munich's record unbeaten league run on Wednesday as they came from behind to beat Stuttgart 2-1 and extend the streak to 43 matches. Thiago Alcantara's winner, which also marked his first goal for Bayern, was a superb volley in the third minute of time added on giving the champions their 16th win in 18 matches.



MADRID (AFP) - Atletico Madrid set up a mouthwatering Copa del Rey semi-final with city rivals Real Madrid after beating Athletic Bilbao 2-1 on Wednesday to win 3-1 on aggregate. Aritz Aduriz had powered the hosts into a deserved lead four minutes before half-time and Athletic were only denied a bigger advantage at the break by two outstanding saves from Thibaut Courtois. Atletico will travel to the Santiago Bernabeu, where they beat Real 2-1 in last year's final, for the first leg of the semi-final next week with the return to come at the Vicente Calderon the following week.

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## NBA: Howard's Rockets stun the Spurs

HOUSTON (AFP) - Dwight Howard helped overcome the loss of leading scorer James Harden as the Houston Rockets posted a 97-90 win over San Antonio to sweep the season series from the Spurs.

Howard shook off a slow start Tuesday to finish with 23 points and 16 rebounds for the Rockets who also won the previous two contests against the Spurs this season.

Houston had to play without top gun Harden who was out with a thumb injury. Like Howard, Terrence Jones also stepped up with 21 points and nine rebounds and Jeremy Lin added 18 points and eight assists in front of a crowd of 18,314 at Toyota Center arena.

The Rockets took the series from San Antonio this season



for the first time since 1996-97. Tim Duncan started with the Spurs a year later.

San Antonio has dropped back-to-back games for the first time this season after los-

ing at Miami in a 2013 NBA finals rematch on Sunday.

To make matters worse, the injury-depleted Spurs might have lost star Manu Ginobili to an injury. Ginobili left the game in the third quarter with a possible hamstring injury which he appeared to aggravate on a dunk.

The Spurs were already without starters Tiago Splitter and Kawhi Leonard as well as reserve Danny Green.

San Antonio is two and a half games behind Oklahoma City for top spot in the Western Conference.

The Rockets were playing the first of two road games in Texas. They face the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday.

## Athlete Renze Postma preparing for 2014 South American Games



ORANJESTAD - Within a few weeks the X South American Games will begin in the city of Santiago, Chile. These games are scheduled for the 7th to 18th of March. The games are a competition between the South American countries forming part of the Sports Organization of South America (ODESUR). The island of Aruba will also be represented with a delegation of athletes. The first athlete to be interviewed who is about to participate in these games is Renze Postma. Postma practices the sport of Triathlon. Despite his young age, Renze is considered an elite Aruban athlete at the regional level. He has competed in various international triathlons with great results. In the South American games Postma will compete on an Olympic distance of 1.5 km swimming, 40km cycling and 15km running on foot. According to Renze Postma, he began his training back in December and has been training specifically for the South American Games. He trains consistently from Monday to Sunday, twice daily. He is convinced that he is in good shape. Once weekly he cycles 50km of which 40km he runs hard behind a motor bike for his speed, and the remaining 10km he uses to warm up. Renze Postma is certain that he is ready for the Games. He hopes to finalize his run in under two hours. His best time on the Olympic distance is 2 hours and 3 minutes. Postma still has his entire career ahead of him with respect to his sport. His dream is to one day represent Aruba in the Olympics. Who knows, perhaps Rio de Janeiro may be an opportunity, but he must first classify. By that time he will have gotten older and more mature, with ample experience.

## NFL: Retiring not on Manning's mind



NEW YORK (AFP) - Peyton Manning shrugged off any notion that he might retire if he guides the Denver Broncos to a Super Bowl 48 victory, saying that he wants to keep playing. The 37-year-old star quarterback who enjoyed a record-setting campaign this season would match his younger brother Eli with a second Super Bowl crown if the Broncos beat Seattle Seahawks in next Sunday's championship game. "I still enjoy playing football," said Manning. "I think as soon as I stop enjoying it, if I can't produce, if I can't help a team, that's when I will stop playing. Manning underwent four neck surgeries and was released two years ago by the Indianapolis Colts, whom he led to a 2007 Super Bowl win over Chicago. Manning led Denver to a one-season NFL record 606 points, 17 more than the old mark set by the Tom Brady-led 2007 New England Patriots. Manning completed 55 touchdown passes, breaking Brady's season NFL mark of 50 from 2007. And Manning's 5,477 passing yards were one more than the old mark set by Drew Brees of New Orleans in 2011.

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## Football: Brazil prosecutors probe Neymar transfer details

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Brazil's state prosecution service said Wednesday it has called on tax authorities to probe the controversial transfer of star striker Neymar to Barcelona.

The details surrounding the deal have already led to the resignation of former Barca chairman Sandro Rosell and sparked a judicial wrangle in Spain.

The transfer cost an initial reported 57.1 million euros (\$78million), plus a 2-million-euro bonus if the 21-year-old star makes the finals of the FIFA World Player of Year award.

But various add-ons take the deal to a total 86 million euros -- including a reported 40 million for N&N, Neymar's family firm run by his father.

Neymar senior on Tuesday denied signing a pre-contract with Barcelona until his son had left Santos for the Liga giants-- but did admit to receiving 10 million euros in 2011 to guarantee a move by 2014.

In the event, the player moved a year early, joining the Catalan club in the Spanish close-season.

The Brazilian authorities are now putting the case under the microscope.

It added it was also studying the possibility of requesting information from the Spanish judicial system after the Spaniards began an investigation of their own.

Brazilian prosecutors want to ascertain if potential tax fraud may have taken place.

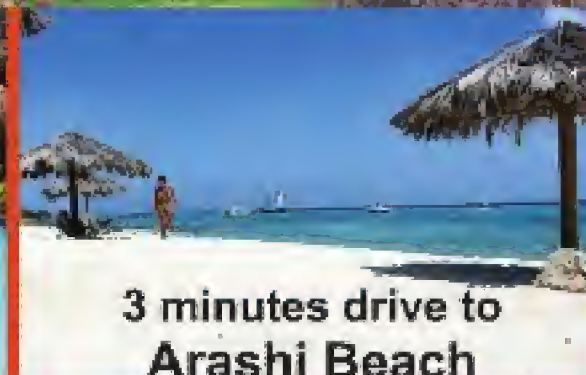
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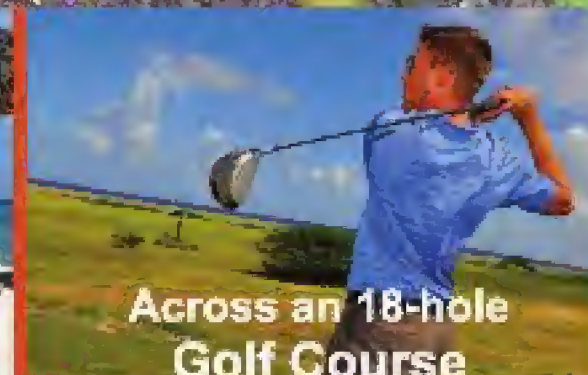
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## Football: Higuain strike ousts Lazio, sets up Roma Cup semi

MILAN (AFP) - Napoli striker Gonzalo Higuain scored eight minutes from time to secure a 1-0 win over holders Lazio and a place in the semi-finals of the Italian Cup against Serie A rivals Roma on Wednesday.

Napoli dominated throughout a rainy fixture at the San Paolo but struggled to pierce a stubborn Lazio defence until Higuain scored with a deft touch in the 82nd minute to

send Rafael Benitez's side through.

Defender Christian Maggio whipped a dangerous looking ball into the penalty area from the right and when Lazio defender Giuseppe Biava tried to clear, the ball fell to Jose Callejon on the edge of the area.

Callejon's angled strike looked to be edging past the Lazio goal but Higuain intervened in timely fashion to send



the ball flying past beaten Lazio keeper Etrit Berisha.

The Italian Cup semi-finals are held over two legs.

Udinese, who stunned AC Milan in the quarter-finals last week, host Fiorentina on February 4 before travelling to Florence for the second leg a week later.

Napoli will travel to Roma's Olympic Stadium on February 5 before hosting the Giallorossi a week later.